

the supervisor initiates appropriate follow-up action; *i.e.*, reassignment, proposed change to a lower pay band, or proposed removal.

8. Performance Scores: The subsection titled "Performance Scores" (62 FR 54612) is deleted.

9. Performance Ranking: The subsection titled "Performance Ranking" (62 FR 54612) is replaced with the following:

Performance Ranking

Performance ranking has been tested and found to be not appropriate for most positions covered by this modification. The Director may authorize the use of ranking where it is found to be appropriate.

10. Performance Pay Decisions: The subsection titled "Performance Pay Decisions" (62 FR 54612) is replaced with the following:

Performance Pay Decisions

Annually, the NIST Director determines the amount of a unit of increase, or "I," based on a percentage of the mid-point salary for each pay band of each career path. The percentage may vary by career path but must be the same for all pay bands within a career path. Performance pay increases are linked directly to performance ratings. An employee with an overall performance rating of Exceptional Contributor receives a performance pay increase equal to five units of increase, or 5 x "I." A Superior Contributor receives a performance pay increase equal to 3 x "I." A Significant Contributor receives a performance pay increase equal to "I." The actual dollar amount of a performance pay increase depends upon an employee's career path and pay band. Employees may not receive an increase that causes their salary to exceed the maximum rate for their pay band.

Employees with Contributor, Marginal Contributor, or Unsatisfactory ratings do not receive performance pay increases.

11. Performance Bonuses: The subsection titled "Performance Bonuses" (62 FR 54612) is replaced with the following:

Performance Bonuses

Bonuses are the only cash awards linked to the NIST APMS pay-for-performance system. They are awarded at the end of the performance rating period and may be granted in conjunction with performance pay increases. A pay pool manager may award a bonus to any employee with a performance rating of Contributor or higher. A pay pool manager is a line manager who manages his or her

organization's pay increase and bonus fund and has final decision authority over the performance ratings and bonuses of subordinate employees. An employee with an Exceptional Contributor or Superior Contributor rating whose adjusted salary would exceed the maximum rate for the pay band must receive a bonus at least equivalent to the amount of the performance pay increase over the maximum rate but may receive more.

12. Employee Development: The subsection titled "Employee Development" (62 FR 54612) is replaced with the following:

Employee Development

The objective of the NIST Employee Development Program is to develop the competence of employees for maximum achievement of NIST mission and goals. The NIST APMS legislation mandates the continuance of an employee development program including, in appropriate circumstances, a sabbatical program. The NIST APMS sabbatical program is consistent with the terms and conditions of the Senior Executive Service sabbatical program. It covers all career appointees under the NIST APMS who have at least seven years of Federal service and a current performance rating of Contributor or higher.

[FR Doc. 05-9116 Filed 5-5-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-13-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Institute of Standards and Technology

Announcement of the American Petroleum Institute's Standards Activities

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of intent to develop or revise standards and request for public comment and participation in standards development.

SUMMARY: The American Petroleum Institute (API), with the assistance of other interested parties, continues to develop standards, both national and international, in several areas. This notice lists the standardization efforts currently being conducted by API committees. The publication of this notice by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) on behalf of API is being undertaken as a public service. NIST does not necessarily endorse, approve, or recommend the standards referenced.

ADDRESSES: American Petroleum Institute, 1220 L Street, NW., Washington, DC 20005; telephone (202) 682-8000, <http://www.api.org>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: All contact individuals listed in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this notice may be reached at the American Petroleum Institute.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The American Petroleum Institute develops and publishes voluntary standards for equipment, materials, operations, and processes for the petroleum and natural gas industry. These standards are used by both private industry and by governmental agencies. All interested persons should contact the appropriate source as listed for further information.

Pipeline Committee

Std 1163, 1st edition, ILI Systems Qualification.

RP 1133, 1st edition, Guideline for Onshore Hydrocarbon Pipelines Crossing Floodplains.

Std 1165, 1st edition, SCADA Display.
Std 1104, 20th edition, Pipeline Welding.

For Further Information Contact: Andrea Johnson, Standards Department, e-mail: johnsona@api.org.

Committee on Marketing

Std 2610, 2nd Edition, Design, Construction, Operation, Maintenance, and Inspection of Terminal and Tank Facilities.

API/IP Std 1529, 7th edition, Aviation Fueling Hose.

RP 1626, 2nd edition, Recommended Practice for Storing and Handling Ethanol and Gasoline-ethanol Blends at Distribution Terminals and Service Stations.

API 15xx, 1st edition, Recommended Practice for Documenting and Testing Aviation Fuel Quality from Manufacture to Airport.

API 15xx, 1st edition, Recommended Practice for Quality Control and Pre-Airfield Storage Terminals.

For Further Information Contact: David Soffrin, Standards Department, e-mail: soffrind@api.org.

Committee on Refining

Corrosion & Materials

RP 651, 3rd edition, Cathodic Protection of Aboveground Petroleum Storage Tanks.

RP 652, 3rd edition, Lining of Aboveground Petroleum Storage Tanks.

- RP 938-C, 1st edition, Use of Duplex Stainless Steels in the Oil Refining Industry.
- Inspection*
- Std 510, 98th edition, Pressure Vessel Inspection Code.
- Std 570, 3rd edition, Piping Inspection Code.
- RP 575, 3rd edition, Inspection of Atmospheric and Low Pressure Storage Tanks.
- Pressure Vessel and Tanks*
- Std 620, 11th edition, Design and Construction of Large, Welded, Low-Pressure Storage Tanks.
- Std 650, 11th edition, Welded Tanks for Oil Storage.
- Std 653, 4th edition, Tank Inspection, Repair, Alteration, and Reconstruction.
- Fitness for Service*
- RP 579, 2nd edition, Fitness for Service.
- Electrical Equipment*
- Std 546, 3rd edition, Brushless Synchronous Machines—500kVA and Larger.
- Std 547, 1st edition, General Purpose Form-wound Squirrel-cage Induction Motors larger than 250 HP.
- Mechanical Equipment*
- Std 618, 5th edition, Reciprocating Compressors for Petroleum, Chemical, and Gas Industry Services.
- Std 677, 3rd edition, General Purpose Gear Units.
- Std 684, 3rd edition, Tutorial on Rotor Dynamics and Balancing.
- Std 686, 2nd edition, Machinery Installation and Installation Design.
- Heat Transfer Equipment*
- Publ 535, 2nd edition, Burners for Fired Heaters in General Refinery Services.
- RP 536, 2nd edition, Post Combustion Nox Control for Equipment in General Refinery Services.
- Std 661, 6th edition, Air Cooled Heat Exchangers (National Adoption of ISO 13706).
- Piping*
- Std 600, 12th edition, Bolted Bonnet Steel Gate Valves (National Adoption of ISO 10434).
- Std 602, 8th edition, Compact Steel Gate Valves-Flanged, Threaded, Welding, and Extended Body Ends (National Adoption of ISO 15761).
- Std 607, 5th edition, Fire Test for Soft-Seated Quarter-Turn Valves.
- Pressure Relieving Systems*
- RP 521, 5th edition, Guide for Pressure-Relieving and Depressuring Systems.
- Instrument & Control Systems*
- RP 552, 2nd edition, Transmission Systems.
- RP 554 Part 1, 2nd edition, Process Instrumentation and Control.
- Technical Data Book—Petroleum Refining*
- Electronic Version of the Technical Data Book—Petroleum Refining, Release 4.0.
- For Further Information Contact:* David Soffrin, Standards Department, e-mail: soffrind@api.org.
- Meetings/Conferences:* The Spring Refining Meeting will be held at the Hilton New Orleans Riverside, April 18–20, 2005. The Fall Refining Meeting will be held at the Hyatt Regency McCormick Place, Chicago, Illinois, November 14–16, 2005. Interested parties may visit the API Web site at <http://www.api.org/events> for more information regarding participation in these meetings.
- Committee on Safety and Fire Protection**
- RP 2001, 8th edition, Fire Protection in Refineries.
- RP 2026, 2nd edition, Safe Access/Egress Involving Floating Roofs of Storage Tanks (probable reaffirmation).
- RP 2030, 2nd edition, Application of Water Spray Systems for Fire Protection in the Petroleum Industry (probable reaffirmation).
- RP 2207, 5th edition, Preparing Tank Bottoms for Hot Work (probable reaffirmation).
- RP 2217A, 3rd edition, Guidelines for Work in Inert Confined Spaces in the Petroleum Industry.
- RP 2218, 2nd edition, Fireproofing Practices in Petroleum and Petrochemical Processing Plants (probable reaffirmation).
- RP 2219, Safe Operation of Vacuum Trucks in Petroleum Service (possible reaffirmation).
- RP 2220, 2nd edition, Improving Owner and Contractor Safety Performance.
- RP 2350, 3rd edition, Overfill Protection for Petroleum Storage Tanks.
- For Further Information Contact:* David Soffrin, Standards Department, e-mail: soffrind@api.org.
- Committee on Petroleum Measurement Standards**
- Manual of Petroleum Measurement Standards*
- Chapter 3.1A, 2nd edition, Manual Gauging of Petroleum and Petroleum Products.
- Chapter 4.1, 2nd edition, Introduction to Proving Systems.
- Chapter 4.9.1, 1st edition, Introduction to Determination of the Volume of Displacement and Tank Provers.
- Chapter 4.9.2, 1st edition, Determination of the Volume of Displacement and Tank Provers by the Waterdraw Method of Calibration.
- Chapter 4.9.3, 1st edition, Determination of the Volume of Displacement and Tank Provers by the Master Meter Method of Calibration.
- Chapter 4.9.4, 1st edition, Determination of the Volume of Displacement and Tank Provers by the Gravimetric Method.
- Chapter 5.1, 4th edition, General Consideration for Measurement by Meters.
- Chapter 5.2, 3rd edition, Measurement of Liquid Hydrocarbons by Displacement Meters.
- Chapter 5.3, 5th edition, Measurement of Liquid Hydrocarbons by Turbine Meters.
- Chapter 5.4, 4th edition, Accessory Equipment for Liquid Meters.
- Chapter 5.5, 2nd edition, Fidelity and Security of Flow Measurement Pulsed-Data Transmission Systems.
- Chapter 5.8, 1st edition, Measurement of Liquid Hydrocarbons by Ultrasonic Flowmeters Using Transit Time Technology.
- Chapter 14.10, 1st edition, Flare Metering.
- Chapter 12.1.3, 1st edition, Calculation Procedures for Liquefied Petroleum Gases.
- Chapter 17.9, 1st edition, Vessel Experience Factors.
- Chapter 17.10, 1st edition, Measurement of Refrigerated and Pressurized Cargo on Marine Tank Vessels.
- Chapter 22.2, 1st edition, Testing Protocols for Pressure Differential Flow Measurement Devices.
- For Further Information contact:* Andrea Johnson, Standards Department, e-mail: johnsona@api.org.
- API/ASTM/GPA Standards**
- MPMS Ch. 8.4/ASTM D5842, 2nd edition, Manual Sampling and Handling of Fuels for Volatility Measurement.
- MPMS Ch. 10.5/ASTM D95, 4th edition, Standard Test Method for Water in Petroleum Products and Bituminous Materials by Distillation.
- MPMS Ch. 10.6./ASTM D1796, 4th edition, Water and Sediment in Fuel Oils by Centrifuge.
- MPMS Ch. 11.2.4/GPA TP-27/ASTM TBD, 1st edition, Temperature Correction for the Volume of NGL and LPG Tables 23E, 24E, 53E, 54E, 59E, 60E.
- MPMS Ch. 11.2.5/GPA TP-15/ASTM TBD, 1st edition, Simplified Vapor

Pressure Correlation for Commercial NGLs.

For Further Information Contact: Paula Watkins, Standards Department, e-mail: watkinsp@api.org.

Meetings/Conferences: The Fall Committee on Petroleum Measurement Meeting will take place at the Intercontinental New Orleans, New Orleans, Louisiana October 31–November 3, 2005. Interested parties may visit the API Web site at <http://www.api.org/events> for more information regarding participation in these meetings.

Committee on Exploration and Production

Production Equipment

Spec 6D, Addendum to 22nd edition, Pipeline Valves.

RP 6DR, 1st edition, Repair and Remanufacture of Pipeline Valves.

RP 6HT, 1st edition, Heat Treatment and Testing of Large Cross Section and Critical Section Components.

Spec 14A, 11th edition, Subsurface Safety Valve Equipment (National Adoption of ISO 10432).

RP 14B, 5th edition, Design, Installation, Repair and Operation of Subsurface Safety Valve Systems (National Adoption of ISO 10417).

Oil Country Tubular Goods

Oil Country Tubular Goods Tonnage Report.

Line Pipe Tonnage Report.

Spec 5CT, 8th edition, Casing & Tubing (National Adoption of ISO 11960).

RP 5UE, 2nd edition, Ultrasonic Evaluation of Pipe Imperfections.

Offshore Structures, Drill Through Equipment, and Subsea Production Equipment

RP 2A–WSD, Supplement to 21st edition, Planning, Designing and Constructing Fixed Offshore Platforms—Working Stress Design.

RP 2SK, 3rd edition, Design and Analysis of Stationkeeping Systems for Floating Structures.

RP 2Z, 4th edition, Preproduction Qualification for Steel Plates for Offshore Structures.

RP 17A, 4th edition, Design and Operation of Subsea Systems (National Adoption of ISO 13628–1).

RP 17G, 2nd edition, Design and Operation of Completion/Workover Riser Systems (National Adoption of ISO 13628–7).

Spec 17K, 2nd edition, Bonded Flexible Pipe (National Adoption of ISO 13628–10).

Drilling Operations and Equipment

Spec 4F, 3rd edition, Drilling and Well Servicing Structures (National Adoption of ISO 13626).

Spec 7K, 4th edition, Drilling and Well Servicing Equipment (National Adoption of ISO 14693).

Spec 7NRV, 1st edition, Drill String Non-Return Valves.

RP 9B, 12th edition, Wire Roper.

RP 10B, 23rd edition, Testing Well Cements (National Adoption of ISO 10426–2).

RP 10B–5, 1st edition, Determination of Shrinkage and Expansion of Well Cement Formulation at Atmospheric Pressure (National Adoption of ISO 10426–5).

RP 13B–2, 4th edition, Standard Procedures for Field Testing Oil-based Drilling Fluids (National Adoption of ISO 10414–2).

RP 13D, 5th edition, Rheology and Hydraulics of Oil Well Drilling Fluids.

Spec 16C, 2nd edition, Choke and Kill Systems.

Spec 16RCD, 1st edition, Drill Through Equipment/Rotating Control Devices.

For Further Information Contact: Mike Spanhel, Standards Department, e-mail: spanhel@api.org.

Meetings/Conferences: The 2005 Summer Standardization Conference on Oilfield Equipment & Materials will take place at the Hyatt Regency Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada June 27–July 1, 2005. Interested parties may visit the API Web site at <http://www.api.org/events> for more information regarding participation in this meeting.

Executive Committee on Drilling and Production Operations

RP 2D, 6th edition, Operation and Maintenance of Offshore Cranes.

RP 14G, 3rd edition, Fire Prevention and Control on Open-type Offshore Production Platforms.

RP 59, 1st edition, Well Control.

RP 86 (tentative designation), 1st edition, Well Rate Determination.

For Further Information Contact: Tim Sampson, Upstream Department, e-mail: sampson@api.org.

For Additional Information on the overall API standards program, Contact: David Miller, Standards Department, e-mail: miller@api.org.

Dated: April 28, 2005.

Hratch G. Semerjian,

Acting Director.

[FR Doc. 05–9117 Filed 5–5–05; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Institute of Standards and Technology

[Docket No.: 050329086–5086–01]

Proposed Voluntary Product Standard (PS) 20–05 “American Softwood Lumber Standard”

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: This notice advises the public that the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) is distributing a proposed revision of Voluntary Product Standard (PS) 20–99, “American Softwood Lumber Standard.” This standard, prepared by the American Lumber Standard Committee, serves the procurement and regulatory needs of numerous federal, state, and local government agencies by providing for uniform, industry-wide grade-marking and inspection requirements for softwood lumber. The implementation of the standard also allows for uniform labeling and auditing of treated wood and, through a Memorandum of Understanding with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, labeling and auditing of wood packaging materials for international trade. As part of a five-year review process, NIST is seeking public comment and invites interested parties to review the revised standard and submit comments.

DATES: Written comments regarding the proposed revision, PS 20–05, should be submitted to the Standards Services Division, NIST, no later than June 20, 2005.

ADDRESSES: An electronic copy (in PDF) of the proposed standard, PS 20–05, can be obtained at the following Web site <http://ts.nist.gov/docvps>. This site also includes an electronic copy of PS 20–99 (the existing standard), a summary of major recommended changes, and a form for submitting comments. Written comments on the standard should be submitted to Ms. JoAnne Overman, Standards Services Division, NIST, 100 Bureau Drive, Stop 2150, Gaithersburg, MD, 20899–2150; fax (301) 975–5414. Electronic comments may be submitted via e-mail to joanne.overman@nist.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. JoAnne Overman, Standards Services Division, National Institute of Standards and Technology, telephone: (301) 975–4037; fax: (301) 975–5414, e-mail: joanne.overman@nist.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under Department of Commerce procedures